

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 228105

63
ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 H-03 SCS-03 L-03 RSC-01 /023 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/IAI:WTCLUVERIUS:DF
APPROVED BY NEA/AI - HHSTACKHOUSE
H - KFOLGER

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R 192202Z NOV 73
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CASC, IS
SUBJECT: ALLEGED ILL TREATMENT OF AMCITS BY ISRAELI
OFFICIALS

1. SENATOR FULBRIGHT HAS ASKED DEPT TO INVESTIGATE ALLEGATIONS OF ILL TREATMENT OF AMCITS BY LOD AIRPORT OFFICIALS. ALLEGATIONS MADE BY JACK HEKIMIAN WHO WAS ONE OF FORTY-FOUR ARMENIAN AMERICANS WHO ARRIVED ISRAEL FROM CYPRUS SEPTEMBER 19 AFTER VISITING ARMENIAN COMMUNITIES IN SOVIET UNION AND LEBANON.
2. HEKIMIAN ALLEGES THAT GROUP WAS "HERDED" FROM AIRCRAFT TO REMOTE AREA AND, COVERED BY MACHINE GUNS, WERE SUBJECTED TO "ESPECIALLY HUMILIATING PERSONAL SEARCHES AND INTERROGATION." HEKIMIAN ALLEGES THAT PERSONS IN THEIR 70S WERE FORCED TO STRIP, QUESTIONED ABOUT SCARS ON THEIR BODIES, AND HAD THEIR BAGGAGE "NEEDLESSLY FORCED OPEN." HEKIMIAN STATES HE CANNOT SAY IF SUCH PRACTICES ARE ROUTINE BUT CLEARLY HE SUSPECTS IT WAS DUE TO GROUP BEING ARMENIANS WHO HAD VISITED LEBANON AND SOVIET UNION PRIOR ARRIVAL IN ISRAEL.
3. PLEASE LOOK INTO THIS CASE AND ADVISE, AND INCLUDE WHETHER OR NOT ANY OF THIS GROUP COMPLAINED TO EMBASSY

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AFTER ARRIVAL IN ISRAEL AND, IF SO, WHAT ACTION WAS TAKEN

BY EMBASSY. KISSINGER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: collinp0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE228105
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: WTCLUVERIUS:DF
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731124/aaaaartd.tel
Line Count: 62
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: collinp0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 OCT 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11-Oct-2001 by rowellE0>; APPROVED <06 MAR 2002 by collinp0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ALLEGED ILL TREATMENT OF AMCITS BY ISRAELI OFFICIALS
TAGS: CASC, IS
To: TEL AVIV
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005